promoting tourism in the country. This include running of Bharat Darshan special tourist train catering to the common people to visit places of tourism importance at affordable cost. This train covers various parts of the country including Uttar pradesh, Rajasthan, Bihar, Gujarat, Orissa etc. There is no separate fund allocation for this train. The Indian Railways also runs a steam train, the Fairy Queen Express in the State of Rajasthan and a luxury tourist train, the Palace on Wheels, which covers the States of Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh.

Elevation of UC Banerjee Committee

4005. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Justice UC Banerjee Committee probing the Godhra Train incident is proposed to be elevated to a full fledged Commission under the Commission of Inquiry Act, 1952; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Unmanned railway crossing

4006. SHRI R.K. ANAND: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of unmanned railway crossings, State-wise;

(b) the number of accidents occurred on these unmanned railway crossings and the number of persons/children who lost their lives in such accidents during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the policy of Governments to man these unmanned railway crossings; and

(d) how many unmanned railway crossings would be manned this year, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Number of unmanned level crossings as on 31.3.2004 in the country (State-wise) is as under:—

State	Unmanned*	State	Unmanned*
Assam	602	Manipur	3
Andhra Pradesh	1392	Mizoram	17
Bihar	1208	Nagaland	0
Chhattisgarh	374	Orissa	951
Delhi	1	Punjab	962
Gujarat	2797	Rajasthan	1940
Haryana	328	Tamil Nadu	1272
Himachal Pradesh	349	Tripura	0
Jammu & Kashmir	29	Uttar Pradesh	3054
Jharkhand	559	Uttaranchal	109
Karnataka	837	West Bengal	1438
Kerala	133	Chandigarh	1
Madhya Pradesh	1071	Pondicherry	9
Maharashtra	1302	Goa	0
TOTAL:			20738

*The figures are inclusive of D Class Cattle Crossings.

(b) Accident statistics on Indian Railways are maintained Zone-wise and not State-wise. However, zone-wise figures of unmanned level crossing

accidents and number of persons/children who lost their lives in these accidents during the last three years are given below:—

Railways	Number of accident on unmanned level crossings			Number of persons killed in these accidents		
	2002-2003	2003-2004	2004-2005**	2002-2003	2003-2004	2004-2005**
Central	1		1	2		1
Eastern	1		1	1		2
East Central	1	2	6	1		10
Northern	31	19	14	48	35	20
North Eastern	14	18	10	27	26	27
Northeast Frontier	4	6	4	5	13	17
North Western	1	5	3	1	7	3
Southern	7	6	3	9	9	5
South Central	11	6	3	26	10	2
Sourth Eastern	2		1			1
Western	9	8	6	27	19	6
Metro						
Konkan Railway						
East Coast		3	2		5	1
South Western		9	3		11	4
West Central			3			7
North Central		2	3	3	1	4
South East Central		2	1		2	58
TOTAL:	82	86	65	147	138	168

**Note—Figure for 2004-2005 are provisional.

(c) As per existing rules, manning of level crossings can be done on deposit terms, if such a proposal is sponsored by the State Govt./Local bodies duly agreeing to bear the initial cost of construction of the level crossing and one time capitalized cost of recurring maintenance and

operational charges. However, keeping in view the grave consequences of accidents at unmanned level crossings, Railways have decided to man vulnerable level crossings based on the traffic volume and visibility conditions at unmanned level crossings. Manning of such level crossings is being done progressively by utilizing funds received as Railway's share of Central Road Fund. Besides manning of unmanned level crossings is also done under Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS).

(d) Manning of the unmanned level crossing is planned Zone-wise and not State-wise. A total number of 255 unmanned level crossings is as under:—

Railway	Target	Railway	Target
Central	6	North Western	15
Eastern	0	Southern	34
East Central	4	South Central	33
East Coast	15	South Eastern	7
Northern	50	South East Central	15
North Central	4	South Western	15
North Eastern	20	Western	20
Northeast Frontier	13	West Central	4
TOTAL:			255

Gauge Conversion projects

4007. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI:
PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the gauge conversion projects pending for completion as on date, State-wise, Zone-wise;

(b) whether any target date has been fixed for the completion of those projects; and